Sir. There are 261 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) including 149 under State Agricultural Universities and other educational institutions, 27 under ICAR institutes, 74 under Non-Government Organizations and the remaining 11 under Public Sector Udnertakings and State Governments.

The activties of the KVKs are strictly monitored by eight-Zonal Coordinating Units on regular basis. A Scientific Advisory Committee including the representatives of farmers, development departments, research and extension agencies has been constituted for each KVK to review the performance. The funds are released based on the audit utilization certificates commensurate with performance. Special audit teams are deployed for verification of records in case of any discrepancy.

Nine Quinquennial Review Teams also reviewed the functioning of the KVKs.

Loss of Lives Due to Floods in Arunachal Pradesh

472. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMAMUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pelased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sudden floods in Arunachal Pradesh have claimed lives of many people;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the reason for the floods is probably due to some activity across the border; and

(c) if so, whether Government have taken up the matter with the Chinese Government to prevent such happenings in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The state Government has reported that 24 people have died due to the flash floods.

(b) The State Government of Arunachal Pradesh felt that the floods could have been caused by a dam burst on the Chinese side.

(c) The matter was taken up with the Chinese side who conveyed

that there is no dam on their side on the Yarlung Tsangpo (Brahmaputra) river and that the occurrence on the Indian side could have been "only due to natural causes".

Rehabilitation for Cyclone Victims in Gujarat

473. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Gujarat have submitted proposals for (i) additional assistance from National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) for rehabilitation expenditure of cyclone of June, 1998, (ii) social economic upliftment and rehabilitation of the victims of Kandla in cyclone in June, 1998 and (iii) a report for submitting to the World Bank regarding long term planning for cyclone mitigation and relief;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the present position in respect of the above three?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) The Memorandum of the State Government was considered and on the basis of the approval of the National Calamity Relief Committee, an assistance of Rs. 55.35 crore from the National Fund for Calamity Relief was released to the State on 31.3.1999 for providing necessary assistance to the cyclone victims for relief and rehabilitaiton. The proposal of the State Government for World Bank assistance has already been recommended by the Government to the World Bank.

Setting Up of food Parks

474. SHRI R.S. GAVAI:
SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up food parks in bid to encouraging food processing sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the locations selected for these parks;